

TOWN OF DOUGLAS

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Public Notice #15 2020 Coronavirus Response

April 27, 2020 11:00 AM

As of 11:00 a.m. this morning, the Town of Douglas has had a total of 24 confirmed cases of COVID-19. The Town's first case was confirmed on March 24.

Today's total number of 24 is up from 19 reported one week ago. Of the 24, 2 are people who have legal residences in Douglas but are currently living in long term care facilities out of town. The Town does not know the outcome of those 2 cases. Of the remaining 22 positive test results, 7 are actively quarantined at 6 different addresses.

The State government is emphasizing the need for contact tracing and quarantine as necessary elements in any plan to re-start the economy. The Douglas Board of Health, through the Town Nurse, has already been following best practices in this area with patient outreach, contact tracing, follow up calls, and extra services (including the meals program) that all work to identify and contain the spread of the coronavirus. Many communities, especially smaller ones, have had to hire a town nurse and are just coming up to speed on these critical initiatives.

While the Town is not presently planning to re-open Town buildings in the immediate future, steps are being taken to be ready once that decision is made by the Governor and Board of Selectmen. Physical distancing is going to be a mandatory practice for the foreseeable future, and will include protective windows and personal protective gear for Town employees as well as greater use of electronic payment and permitting systems.

Those needing assistance in the form of delivered meals should sign up through the Town's website. Volunteers and donations are welcome, and should be coordinated through the Adult Social Center at 508-476-2283.